IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows (all remaining claims are presented):

Claim 1 (presently amended) A method for fabricating media having contaminant-sorbent and antimicrobial properties, the method comprising:

(a) irrigating a multitude of contaminant-sorbent polymer particles with a solution containing an antimicrobial compound;

~~wherein~~

(b) wherein the antimicrobial compound and the polymer of the particles are reactive together so as to cause the antimicrobial compound to graft onto the polymer particles; and

(c) wherein the polymer is substantially phobic to water and to the solution;

whereby ~~the antimicrobial compound grafts onto the polymer particles and~~, upon contact with water, the polymer particles sorb contaminants from the water and reduce proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 2 (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of loose granules or fragments with the solution, wherein substantially all surfaces of each individual particle is exposed to the solution.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of polymer particles that are hydrocarbon-sorbent.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:

(a) substantially drying the solution from polymer particles that are granules; and

(b) extruding the polymer particles into fragments of filter media.

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising supporting the fragments about an open recess within a filter module, whereby the filter module is capable of both removing oil from water passing into the open recess and reducing proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 6 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein providing the solution comprises providing, dissolved in water, a quantity of an organosilane compound not susceptible to self-condensation in water.

Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 6 further comprising dissolving the organosilane compound in the water to prepare the solution.

Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating the polymer particles with the solution comprises immersing the particles in a static volume of the solution for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

(a) irrigating the polymer particles comprises irrigating particles substantially consisting of a mixture of:

(1) particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer; and

(2) particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer;

(b) the particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer comprise about 10-30% of the mixture, by weight; and

(c) the particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer are comprised of about 25-45% styrene and are in the range of about 4-20 mesh.

Claims 10-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (new) A method for fabricating media having contaminant-sorbent and antimicrobial properties, the method comprising:

(a) irrigating a multitude of particles, comprised of a contaminant-sorbent, hydrophobic copolymer embedded in a compliant, hydrophobic, olefinic polymer, with a solution containing an antimicrobial compound;

(b) wherein the antimicrobial compound, on the one hand, and the polymer and copolymer of the particles, on the other hand, are reactive together; and

(c) wherein the particles are substantially phobic to water and to the solution;

whereby the antimicrobial compound grafts onto the particles and, upon contact with water, the particles sorb contaminants from the water and reduce proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of loose granules or fragment with the solution, wherein substantially all surfaces of each individual particle is exposed to the solution.

Claim 23 (new) The method of claim 21 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of polymer particles that are hydrocarbon-sorbent.

Claim 24 (new) The method of claim 23 further comprising:

(a) substantially drying the solution from polymer and copolymer particles that are granules; and

(b) extruding the polymer particles into fragments of filter media.

Claim 25 (new) The method of claim 24 further comprising supporting the fragments about an open recess within a filter module, whereby the filter module is capable of both removing oil from water passing into the open recess and reducing proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 26 (new) The method of claim 21 wherein providing the solution comprises providing, dissolved in water, a quantity of an organosilane compound not susceptible to self-condensation in water.

Claim 27 (new) The method of claim 26 further comprising dissolving the organosilane compound in the water to prepare the solution.

Claim 28 (new) The method of claim 21 wherein irrigating the particles with the solution comprises immersing the particles in a static volume of the solution for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 29 (new) The method of claim 21 wherein:

(a) irrigating the particles comprises irrigating particles substantially consisting of a mixture of:

(1) particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer; and

(2) particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer;

(b) the particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer comprise about 10-30% of the mixture, by weight; and

(c) the particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer are comprised of about 25-45% styrene and are in the range of about 4-20 mesh.

Claim 30 (new) A method for making a filter module capable of both removing contaminants and reducing proliferation of microbial organisms, the method comprising:

(a) irrigating a multitude of contaminant-sorbent polymer particles with a solution containing an antimicrobial compound;

(b) wherein the antimicrobial compound and the polymer of the particles are reactive together so as to cause the antimicrobial compound to graft onto the polymer particles;

(c) wherein the polymer is substantially phobic to water and to the solution; and

(d) arranging the particles about an open recess within a filter module.

Claim 31 (new) The method of claim 30 wherein the polymer particles irrigated are comprised of a contaminant-sorbent, hydrophobic copolymer embedded in a compliant, hydrophobic, olefinic polymer, and wherein the antimicrobial compound is reactive together with both the copolymer and the olefinic polymer.